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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### WTO Member Comments Invited on Draft Standards for Synthetic Syrups

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

Beverages

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**Report Highlights:**

On July 26, 2018, the Government of India's Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) invited World Trade Organization (WTO) members to comment on its revised standards for synthetic syrups. The deadline to provide comments is September 23, 2018.

## General Information:

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/> and <https://www.wto.org/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs, USDA and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

On July 17, 2018, FSSAI published a draft notification to amend Regulation 2.3, "Fruit and Vegetable Products" of the [Food Safety and Standards \(Food Products Standards and Food Additives\) Regulations, 2011](#). In the draft regulation, FSSAI removed fruit syrup and fruit *sharbat* from sub-regulation 2.3.21, and added certain requirements, including permissible limits of citric acid, specific gravity, total soluble solids, and pH levels, for *sharbat* and synthetic syrup in sub-regulation 2.3.24.

On July 26, 2018, India notified this draft amendment to the WTO for comments (WTO Notification Number: G/SPS/N/IND/221). The deadline to provide comments is September 23, 2018. The full text of the draft notification is available online at FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>.

Comments should be sent by September 23, 2018 to:

The Chief Executive Officer  
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Food and Drug Administration Bhawan, Kotla Road  
New Delhi – 110002  
Email: [regulation@fssai.gov.in](mailto:regulation@fssai.gov.in)

## Details of Draft Regulation:

- Publication date on the FSSAI website: July 17, 2018
- WTO Notification Number: [G/SPS/N/IND/221](#)
- WTO Notification Date: July 26, 2018
- Final date for comments: September 23, 2018
- Products Effected: Squashes, Crushes, Fruit Syrups/Fruit *Sharbats* and Barley Water

Notice Calling for suggestions, views, comments etc from WTO- SPS Committee members within a period of 60 days on the draft notification related to Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Amendment Regulations, 2018 relating to revision of standards of synthetic syrup and sharbat.

F.No. Stds/SP(Water & Beverages)/Notification(6) FSSAI-2018.- In the Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) Regulations, 2011, in Regulation 2.3. relating to "FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRODUCTS",

- a) The sub-regulation 2.3.21 relating to "Squashes, Crushes, Fruit Syrups/Fruit Sharbats and Barley Water" shall be substituted by the following namely:-

**2.3.21 Squashes, Crushes, Cordial and Barley Water:**

1. Squashes and Crushes means the product prepared from unfermented but fermentable fruit juice/puree or concentrate clear or cloudy, obtained from any suitable fruit or several fruits by blending it with nutritive sweeteners, water and with or without salt, aromatic herbs, peel oil and any other ingredients suitable to the products.
2. Cordial means a clear product free from any cellular matter, obtained by blending unfermented but fermentable clarified fruit juice with nutritive sweeteners & water with or without salt and peel oil and any other ingredients suitable to the products.
3. Barley water means the product prepared from unfermented but fermentable fruit juice by blending it with nutritive sweeteners, water with or without salt and peel oil and barley starch not less than 0.25 percent and any other ingredient suitable to the product.
4. The product may contain food additives permitted in these regulations including Appendix A. The product shall conform to the microbiological requirements given in Appendix B.

The product shall comply with the following requirements:—

<i>Name of the products</i>	<i>Min (%) of fruit juice/ puree in the final product</i>	<i>Total Soluble Solids Min (%)</i>	<i>Acidity expressed as Citric Acid Max (%)</i>
(1) Squash	25	40	3.5

(2)	Crush	25	55	3.5
(3)	Cordial	25	30	3.5
(4)	Barley Water	25	30	2.5

5. The container shall be well filled with the product and shall occupy not less than 90.0 percent of the water capacity of the container, when packed in the rigid containers. The water capacity of the container is the volume of distilled water at 20°C which the sealed container is capable of holding when completely filled.

- b) The sub-regulation 2.3.24 relating to "Synthetic Syrup or Sharbat" shall be substituted by the following namely:

**2.3.24 Sharbat and Synthetic syrup**

1. Sharbat shall contain minimum 25 percent of juice or extract of fruit or vegetable or nut or herb or flower or spice, alone or in combination.

It shall be free from burnt or objectionable taints, flavours, artificial sweetening agents, extraneous matter and crystallization. Sharbat shall also meet the following requirement:

Sr. No.	Parameter	Permissible limits
1.	Acidity as citric acid	0.05 to 0.15
2.	Specific Gravity	1.3 to 1.5
3.	Total Soluble Solids, Percent by mass	More than 30.0
4.	pH	Less than 4.5

2. Synthetic Syrup shall be obtained by blending syrup made from sugar, dextrose or liquid glucose.

It shall be free from burnt or objectionable taints, flavours, artificial sweetening agents, extraneous matter and crystallization. Synthetic Syrup shall also meet the following requirement:

Sr. No.	Parameter	Permissible limits
1.	Acidity as citric acid	0.1 to 0.3
2.	Specific Gravity	1.0 to 1.5
3.	Total Soluble Solids, Percent by mass.	More than 30.0
4.	pH	Less than 4.5